

To whom it may concern at the FCC:

I am writing this letter to inform you that I am in favor of the XM-Sirius merger. As a Sirius subscriber, I have often hoped for a combination of the two companies. Each provider offers different programming, i.e., NFL with Sirius and Major League Baseball with XM. Even if the merged company charged a fraction more to get both of those broadcasts, it would benefit the consumer. Also, at this point if the merger happened, I would have the choice to pay more and get more stations for less than if I subscribed separately, or continue on at my current subscription rate and receive the same programming. That seems like I have more choice than I do now. Currently, I can subscribe to one and get a certain group of stations, subscribe to the other, or subscribe to both for double the cost. A merger will bring more programming choices, at a lower cost than if the companies were divided.

Satellite radio does compete with terrestrial radio, Mp3 players and even the CD market. While in my car, I have the choice to listen to free radio, subscription based satellite radio, my Ipod, and even my collection of CDs. Does this mean that all of these choices are based on the same technology or have the same sound quality? Not for most people. In my case, the Ipod, Satellite radio and CDs are all at an even sound quality and free radio at slightly less. But I choose to listen to satellite radio solely based on the content that is provided. Even with commercials, if terrestrial radio provided entertaining content, I probably would not have purchased my satellite radio.

There is also another false notion, that some people believe that a merged company will not have any competition and be able to raise prices. I believe we should let the market decide what that cost would be. If they charged \$30 a month, would I still pay, probably not. If everyone cancelled, the company would fall. Even still, at this point, would probably agree to not raise prices for a certain period of time if allowed to merge.

Finally, the most notable fact that shows that a merged satellite radio company would be good for the consumer is the fact that the NAB is so opposed to it. Their interest is in listeners and advertisers. If XM and Sirius were allowed to merge, there would be a better chance for that company to grow and gather more subscribers. Each subscriber with a satellite radio is one person not listening to the advertisements on terrestrial radio (an industry where two companies own almost 100% of the radio stations).

The NAB is a powerful group and will probably convince the FCC to not allow this merger to happen. But this is in their own interest, not the interest of the American people, who deserve the right to subscribe or not subscribe to

satellite radio, and if so, given the most choice on pricing and programming choices.

Please, allow this merger to pass and let the consumers dictate on whether it will succeed or not.

Sincerely,
Jonathan A Pellechia